GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:529
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Permission to Foreign Audit Firms
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has entered into consultations with various stakeholders and experts regarding grant of permission to foreign audit firms to register and operate directly in the Indian market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the views submitted by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) with regards to the opening of audit service sector in the country; and

(d) the measures contemplated by the Government to ensure that competition introduced by such foreign auditors does not hamper the practice of domestic auditors and monopoly of such auditors does not result in unethical practices in auditing?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)
IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (???? ?????? ??? ??????)
???????? ????? ???????? ??? ????? ??????
(a) to (b):- Department of Commerce regularly consults with stakeholders and experts, both domestic and foreign, for reciprocal market access in the area of services, including professional services, as part of bilateral and multilateral negotiations. As regards audit services, while Government has received requests for market access for foreign audit firms, India has, however, not taken any commitments for audit services at the World Trade Organisation, nor in any bilateral Free Trade Agreements.

(c) ICAI has not supported the opening of audit service sector for foreign firms.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) to (b) above.
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